

PRE-COURSE TEST ANSWER KEY

Instructions: Use this Answer Key to check your answers to the Pre-Course Test. If you answered any questions incorrectly, be sure to pay careful attention to those areas as you complete the course. Even if you answered all of the Pre-Course Test questions correctly, review the course materials carefully before taking the Final Examination.

1. FEMA helps plan, coordinate, and manage disaster assistance activities including preparedness, response, recovery, and **mitigation**.
2. Other FEMA activities include (check all that apply):
 - ☒ **Planning for emergencies at the Army's chemical stockpile sites.**
 - ☐ Providing security at commercial nuclear powerplants.
 - ☒ **Providing emergency food and shelter funding for the homeless.**
 - ☒ **Ensuring the continuity of the Federal government during national security emergencies.**
3. One of FEMA's goals is to create an emergency management partnership with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, **volunteer organizations**, and the private sector.
4. In concert with its partners, a FEMA goal is to establish a national emergency management system that is (check all that apply):
 - ☒ **Comprehensive.**
 - ☒ **Risk-based.**
 - ☐ Locally administered.
 - ☒ **All-hazards in approach.**
5. FEMA (check all that apply):
 - ☐ Coordinates aid for State emergencies.
 - ☐ Staffs the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board.
 - ☐ Administers community awareness programs for weather emergencies and home safety.
 - ☒ **Works to reduce the Nation's losses from fire.**
6. Of the seven major FEMA program offices, the Mitigation Directorate provides:
 - a. Habitability inspections of disaster-damaged homes.
 - b. Local fire service planning.
 - c. **Flood map revision, distribution, storage, and print processing.**
 - d. Federal flood insurance servicing agent operation.

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7. The Operations Support Directorate provides:
- a. Cost and benefit analyses.
 - b. Background investigations.**
 - c. All-hazards public information materials.
 - d. Advanced hazardous materials studies.
8. The Response and Recovery Directorate is responsible for the oversight of the Emergency Management Institute (EMI).
- ☐ True ☒ **False (The Preparedness, Training, and Exercises Directorate oversees EMI).**
9. FEMA's program offices, headquartered in Washington, DC, are the primary source through which FEMA's policies, programs, and program objectives are delivered and accomplished at the Regional, State, and local levels.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (The Regional Offices are the primary sources.)**
10. The 1988 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, which provides the authority for FEMA's role in managing Federal disaster assistance:
- a. Includes programs for temporary housing, debris removal, and mitigation.**
 - b. Provides assistance contingent upon a Governor's disaster declaration.
 - c. Authorizes funding for a single-incident response.
 - d. Includes Congressional responsibility for determining when Federal disaster relief is required.
11. FEMA's role, as established by the Stafford Act, includes (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Helping assess the damage after a disaster.**
 - ☒ **Evaluating a Governor's request for a Presidential declaration.**
 - ☒ **Managing the President's Disaster Relief Fund.**
 - ☒ **Coordinating the activities of volunteer organizations.**
12. Under the Stafford Act, a Presidential declaration can be based on either a major disaster or an emergency.
- ☒ **True** ☐ False
13. Local government's response to an emergency is determined by the (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Speed of onset of the emergency.**
 - ☒ **Potential need for evacuation.**
 - ☒ **Magnitude of the situation.**
 - ☐ Governor's request for assistance.
 - ☒ **Extent of the threat to citizens.**

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14. In many States, the Governor can suspend local ordinances if it is determined that the law in question will restrict or prohibit efforts to relieve human suffering caused by the disaster.
- ☒ **True** ☐ **False**
15. When a State emergency is declared, the Governor can (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Provide State assistance with evacuation and the control of points of entry and departure.**
☒ **Establish economic controls over resources such as food, clothing, and shelter.**
☒ **Establish control over wages in the affected area.**
☒ **Mobilize the National Guard and direct its efforts.**
16. The steps involved in a Presidential declaration include (check all that apply):
- ☒ **A joint FEMA/State Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA).**
☐ FEMA's activation of the Federal Response Plan (FRP).
☒ **The Governor's request for assistance.**
☒ **FEMA's recommendation to the President regarding the Governor's request.**
☒ **The Presidential declaration.**
17. After the President declares a major disaster, the FEMA-State Agreement is prepared by the FEMA Regional Director and the State **Governor**.
18. The Federal Response Plan is applicable only to natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, floods, and fires.
- ☐ **True** ☒ **False (The FRP is also applicable to technological emergencies.)**
19. After a Presidential declaration of a major disaster, the Emergency Support Team (EST) is always activated at the Regional Operations Center (ROC).
- ☐ **True** ☒ **False (The EST is activated at FEMA Headquarters.)**
20. In catastrophic situations, the Director of FEMA may deploy the National Emergency Response Team (ERT-N) to support State and FEMA Regional resources.
- ☒ **True** ☐ **False**
21. States have the right to appeal the President's denial of a request for an emergency declaration.
- ☒ **True** ☐ **False**
22. The **Disaster Field Office (DFO)**, where the ERT is located, serves as the central coordinating facility for joint Federal-State operations.

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23. The **Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO)**, the lead Federal official at the Disaster Field Office (DFO), works jointly with the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) to assess the most urgent needs, coordinate Federal and State efforts, and devise strategies to meet the needs.
24. The major sections of the ERT at the DFO are **Operations**, Information and Planning, Logistics, and Administration.
25. Three key functions of the ERT are Emergency Information and Media Affairs, Congressional Affairs, and **Community Relations**.
26. The Disaster Housing Program is administered and funded by:
- a. Jointly by FEMA (at 75% funding) and the State (at 25%).
 - b. FEMA.**
 - c. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
 - d. Representatives of the Cora Brown Fund.
27. The amount of home repair assistance provided under the Disaster Housing Program is based on the damages incurred, as determined by a State inspection.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (Assistance is based on a FEMA inspection.)**
28. Transient accommodations includes rental reimbursement for:
- a. Mobile homes.
 - b. Rental apartments.
 - c. Travel trailers.
 - d. Motels and hotels.**
29. Disaster Unemployment Assistance is administered by the State and funded by FEMA.
- ☒ **True** ☐ False
30. Individual and Family Grants may be provided for (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Medical expenses.**
 - ☒ **Transportation expenses.**
 - ☐ Legal services.
 - ☒ **Home repair.**
 - ☒ **Replacement of essential personal property.**
 - ☒ **Funeral expenses.**
 - ☐ Tax assistance.
 - ☒ **Protective measures.**

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31. Eligibility for Economic Injury Disaster Loans is restricted to businesses located within the counties that are included in the Presidential disaster declaration.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (In the event of an SBA administrative disaster declaration or a declaration by the Secretary of Agriculture, individuals or businesses located in counties adjacent to those declared may also apply for certain types of disaster loans.)**
32. Agricultural Assistance includes:
- a. Emergency debris removal on farmland within a Presidentially declared disaster area.
 - b. Repair of roadways in rural areas affected by the disaster.
 - c. Assistance to counties within an area included in a disaster declaration by the Secretary of Agriculture.
 - d. **Provision of Federally-owned feed grain for livestock and herd preservation.**
33. Eligible applicants for infrastructure support assistance within designated disaster areas include (check all that apply):
- ☒ **States.**
 - ☒ **Native American tribes or authorized tribal organizations.**
 - ☐ Eligible small businesses.
 - ☒ **Alaska Native villages and organizations.**
 - ☐ Voluntary agencies.
 - ☐ Essential private-sector properties.
 - ☒ **Qualifying private nonprofit organizations.**
34. Mitigation actions are accomplished by (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Acting on the hazard.**
 - ☒ **Redirecting the hazard.**
 - ☒ **Interacting with the hazard.**
 - ☒ **Avoiding the hazard.**
35. Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grants, made on an annual basis, can be awarded for planning assistance, implementation of actual mitigation projects, and **technical assistance**.
36. The **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** provides flood insurance at a reasonable cost in exchange for the careful management of flood-prone areas by local communities.
37. Under **Project Impact**, FEMA offers expertise and technical assistance from both the national and regional levels to provide local governments with information and techniques on the latest mitigation practices.

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38. Even without a Presidential declaration of a major disaster or emergency, these types of assistance (among others) are available from various Federal and regional agencies (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Search and rescue.**
 - ☒ **Flood protection.**
 - ☒ **Fire suppression assistance.**
 - ☒ **Tax refunds.**
 - ☒ **Voluntary organization assistance.**
39. When dealing with the hazardous weather events that are common to a community, it is important to know the definition of the event, **the characteristics common to the event**, and historical examples of the types and amounts of damage that each event may cause.
40. To be better prepared for your community's emergency planning process, consider which hazards are most likely to occur in your community, what damage they are likely to cause, which areas are likely to be hardest hit, and **how your Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) addresses the response**.
41. If a hazardous weather incident occurs, your community may require assistance from **mutual aid partners**, the State, and FEMA.
42. **Tornadoes** are the most violent storms on Earth.
43. **Flash flooding** is the number one weather-related killer in the United States.
44. Fire is a hazard that is sometimes associated with thunderstorms.
- ☒ **True** ☐ **False**
45. **Downbursts** are localized currents of air blasting down from a thunderstorm, which induce an outward burst of damaging wind on or near the ground.
46. A tornado that is over water is a:
- a. Frontal system.
 - b. Funnel cloud.
 - c. Water spout.**
 - d. Microburst.
47. Nearly half of the number of victims killed by flash floods are:
- a. Boaters injured in debris flows.
 - b. Rescue workers caught in mudslides.
 - c. Children playing near culverts and drainage pipes.
 - d. Motorists trapped in their vehicles.**

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48. Soils covered with vegetation enhance runoff and enable the rapid accumulation of water at low points.
- ☐ True ☒ **False**
49. A Flash Flood Watch covers precipitation, snow/ice melt, and **dam break conditions**.
50. The lakeshore flooding event that is known as a **seiche** occurs when winds push the lake water to one end of the lake and then, when the storm ends, the water sloshes to the other end of the lake, causing water level changes of up to several feet.
51. A storm surge usually arrives as a/an:
- a. Unusual rise in the barometric pressure.
 - b. Abnormal rise in the tide.**
 - c. Rapidly moving wall of water.
 - d. Downdraft resulting in a burst of high wind.
52. A Coastal Flood Statement informs the public that coastal flooding is possible approximately 12 to 36 hours after issuance time.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (A Coastal Flood Watch provides this information. A Coastal Flood Statement cancels a watch or a warning or clears part of the area that is no longer threatened.)**
53. Hurricane winds blow **counterclockwise** around the center, or eye, of the storm.
54. Hydrometeorological hazards associated with hurricanes include (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Coastal flooding caused by a storm surge.**
 - ☒ **Windstorms resulting from extremely strong winds.**
 - ☒ **Riverine flooding caused by heavy rains.**
 - ☒ **Tornadoes.**
55. Winds that extend outward from a hurricane's eye wall in the *right front quadrant* are the most devastating.
- ☒ **True** ☐ False
56. **Snow squalls** are periods of moderate to heavy snowfall, intense, but of limited duration, accompanied by strong, gusty surface winds and possibly lightning.

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57. The National Weather Service (NWS) issues this type of bulletin for winter weather situations that cause significant inconvenience but do not meet warning criteria and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to life-threatening situations.
- a. Short-term Forecast
 - b. Winter Weather Advisory**
 - c. Special Weather Statement
 - d. Winter Storm Outlook
58. A victim of hypothermia requires immediate medical help when body temperature drops to **95°F**.
59. About five percent of winter deaths attributed to exposure to cold occur in the home.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (About 20 percent occur in the home.)**
60. **Fog** is defined as water droplets suspended in the air at the Earth's surface.
61. The **Heat Index** is a measure of the effect of the combination of significantly high temperatures and high humidities.
62. These problems can result from excessively high temperatures (check all that apply):
- ☒ **Cramps and fainting**
 - ☒ **Electrical brown-outs**
 - ☒ **Changes in airplanes' performance**
 - ☐ Increases in the body's salt levels
63. **Duststorms** can cause impaired visibility and breathing difficulties as well as scouring damage to buildings and automobiles.
64. A term used for the meteorological conditions that promote the spread of wildfire:
- a. Fire danger
 - b. Fire weather**
 - c. Red-flag conditions
 - d. Fuel/weather factor
65. The **epicenter** is the point on the Earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake—where geologists identify the earthquake's location.
66. Extremely strong earthquakes have magnitudes of **8** or more on the Richter Scale.
67. A **tsunami** is a series of ocean waves of extremely long length, generated by disturbances from earthquakes, underwater volcanic eruptions, or landslides occurring below or near the ocean floor.

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68. In the United States, most terrorist incidents have involved individuals who use terrorism to achieve a general objective.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (They have involved small groups seeking to achieve a designated objective.)**
69. Anti-terrorism research has resulted in antidotes for all known chemical terrorism agents, but not as yet for all biological agents.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (Antidotes are available for some, but not all, chemical agents.)**
70. It is possible for a civilian to order the bacteria that causes bubonic plague from a privately owned United States company.
- ☒ **True** ☐ False
71. The most feasible, and thus the most likely, form of nuclear terrorism in the United States is:
- a. Importation of radioactive material.
 - b. Theft of radioactive sources from legitimate industry.
 - c. Clandestine manufacture of plutonium.
 - d. Assault on a nuclear facility.**
72. For biological warfare agents, concern for person-to-person contamination is limited to pneumonic plague and **smallpox**.
73. Half of the cases of inhalation anthrax in which treatment begins after the exhibition of symptoms result in death, regardless of the treatment.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (Almost all cases result in death.)**
74. Vaccination of the general population against the more common biological agents is expected to lessen the threat of domestic terrorism in the United States within five years.
- ☐ True ☒ **False (It is considered impractical to immunize a population not specifically at risk.)**